

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
SUMMER / FALL 1988

During the past eight months, there has been considerable international academic exchange activity at Concordia University. The focus of much of this activity has been our rapidly developing relationships with academic institutions in China, Poland and India. In addition, there have been significant contacts with institutions in a number of other countries around the world.

CHINA: The cornerstone of Concordia's international relations remains its formal academic linkages with eight leading Chinese institutions. Central to our China initiative is our relationship with Southeast University (formerly Nanjing Institute of Technology) with whom we have developed a widely publicized innovative joint doctoral program in engineering and computer science. The first group of ten joint doctoral students has just completed its jointly supervised doctoral training in Nanjing; this training has included intensive doctoral courses taught in Nanjing by Concordia Professors G. Hayes, T. Kasvand, A. Krzyzak and T. LeNgoc. Five of these students are preparing to come to Montreal in April 1989 for up to two years of doctoral research. Dr. Wei Yu, President of Southeast University and one of the leading women academics in China, received an Honorary Doctor of Law (LL.D) from Concordia in June 1988 in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the transformation of Chinese higher education. Most recently, Dr. E.B. Newman visited Nanjing in November 1988 under the auspices of the new NNSFC/NSERC faculty exchange in order to assist in the development of research and teaching facilities in biotechnology.

Academic exchange activity with our other partner institutions in China has also flourished. Concordia's CIDA-funded Management Education link with Tianjin University and Hautes Etudes Commerciales has entered its second phase. Two Concordia Professors - Juan Segovia of Accountancy and Bruce Prince of Management - offered Summer courses in Tianjin in 1988 and two visiting scholars from Tianjin are presently on campus. Concordia's relationship with The Microbiology Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences continues to develop - both Professors R.M. Roy and E.B. Newman have now visited the Institute and three Institute doctoral students are presently on campus. Our future academic exchange activities with Shanghai Jiatong University were elaborated during the late September visit to our campus of a high-level delegation led by SJTU Vice-President Sheng Zhenbang and we are shortly expecting the arrival of our first exchange student under the auspices of this agreement. Our exchange relationship with Nanjing University (in inorganic materials) continues to flourish, with five doctoral students from Nanjing currently on our campus in association with our Laboratories for Inorganic Materials; Dr. S. Kumarapeli of our Geology Department made a return visit to Nanjing in October

1988 to participate in an international conference and Dr. C.H. Langford, Associate Vice-Rector Academic, Research and Director of our Laboratories for Inorganic Materials will be visiting China in April 1989 under the auspices of the NNSFC/NSERC faculty exchange. There are also presently graduate students on campus from People's University of China (in economics) and Shanghai International Studies University (Educational Technology and TESL), and there has already been two way exchange of Faculty in each linkage.

In addition, in light of its very active role in Canadian academic relations with China, Concordia has hosted several visits by high-level Chinese academic delegations, including the May 1988 visit by a twelve-member delegation from the State Education Commission of China; a June 1988 return visit by Mr. Huang Xinbai, Senior Commissioner of the State Education Commission of China; an October visit by Professor Hu Zhaosen, Director of the National Natural Sciences Foundation of China; and a December visit by a five-member delegation from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, hosted by Concordia's Faculty of Arts and Science.

POLAND: In Winter 1988, our Faculty of Fine Arts signed a groundbreaking academic exchange agreement with the Ministry of Culture of Poland. This five-year entente provides for a wide range of academic and cultural exchange activities in both the visual and performing arts with twenty-two leading Fine Arts institutions in Poland. During this inaugural year, there has already been a great deal of exchange activity. Professor C. Gabriel-Lackie of the Department of Design Art visited the Academies of Fine Arts in Krakow, Warsaw, Poznan and Wroclaw in December 1988 and Professors K. Austin of the Department of Music and P. Landsley of the Department of Painting and Drawing will be visiting Poland in February 1989. Professor B. Kozlowski of the Academy of Arts in Poznan visited Concordia for three months during Fall 1988 and Professor M. Borkowski of the Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw arrived in January 1989 for a three month visit.

INDIA: During 1988 Concordia University began a major initiative to further develop its existing academic relations with key institutions of higher education in India. With encouragement from the Canadian and Indian Governments and financial assistance from the Ministère des Relations internationales, Gouvernement du Québec, we sent a high-level academic delegation to India in Fall 1988. Led by Vice-Rector Dr. Maurice Cohen, the delegation also included Dr. M.N.S. Swamy, Dean of our Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, Dr. C.L. Bertrand, Dean of our Faculty of Arts and Science and Dr. Martin Singer, Director of our Council for International Cooperation. During nearly three weeks in India, the delegation visited nine institutions of higher education, and met with a number of key Indian Government officials in five cities and with Mr. J.G. Harris, the Canadian High Commissioner and members of his staff in New Delhi.

In the course of the visit, the delegation signed a formal "Agreement of Cooperation" with the Indian Institute of Technology in Madras (in the fields of mechanical engineering, applied mechanics, computer science and computer engineering), as well as a "Protocol on a Joint Doctoral Program." The delegation also signed "Agreements of Cooperation" with the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore (in the fields of electrical and computer sciences, mechanical sciences, inorganic chemistry, biochemistry and microbiology); and with the University of Roorkee (in the field of civil engineering). As a result of these agreements, discussions are already under way to elaborate specific programs for exchange of faculty and students during the coming year.

Concordia University has also welcomed academic visitors from many other countries:

- Thirty-eight Swedish students from Goteborg University spent Summer 1988 in residence at our Loyola Campus. In addition to studying under the supervision of Professor M. Bergier of our Department of Marketing, the students organized a Swedish cultural day which brought the Swedish Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency Ola Ullsten to our campus.

- Concordia hosted a June 1988 visit by the first academic delegation ever to visit Canada from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The three-member delegation from the Korean Academy of the Social Sciences - which included Ryu Hae Yong, Director of the History Department and Professors Mun Jae Chol and Choe Chang Hun - stopped in Montreal to explore the feasibility of future faculty and students exchanges in the social sciences.

- Ms. Mary Okelo of the African Development Bank visited our Simone de Beauvoir Institute in September 1988.

- Concordia was very pleased to host an October 1988 meeting of Central and South American university and government officials from eight countries. The eighteen-member delegation was brought to our campus under the auspices of the Inter-American University Organization for a day of meetings with Concordia officials and a briefing on the financial situations of Concordia and Université de Montréal.

- Concordia, which is currently host institution to the largest number of Malaysian students studying at any Canadian university, welcomed a Malaysian Government Study Tour in October. Led by Mr. Nik Musa, Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry of Education in Malaysia, the delegation engaged in frank and promising discussions on the feasibility of future cooperation between Concordia and universities in Malaysia. After the formal meeting delegates were welcomed to Montreal in a festive gathering of all Malaysian students studying in Montreal area universities.



- Dr. Victor Astihov of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics arrived in October under the auspices of the Canada/USSR Academic Exchange Agreement. He has been working with Concordia's Dr. M. Osman, Professor and Chair of the Mechanical Engineering Department.

- Groningen University of the Netherlands sent a two-member delegation - Prof. Frans Rutten and Prof. Jaap Lintvelt - to Montreal in October 1988 to explore the feasibility of formalizing our existing faculty and student exchange relationship.

January 31, 1989

